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For more information,
contact:

Stephen Orava
+1 202 661 7937
sorava@kslaw.com

Christine Savage
+1 202 626 5541
csavage@kslaw.com

Stephen A. Jones
+1 202 626 2950
sajones@kslaw.com

J. Michael Taylor
+1 202 626 2385
jmtaylor@kslaw.com

Bradford L. Ward
+1 202 626 2382
ward@kslaw.com

Jeffrey M. Telep
+1 202 626 2390
jtelep@kslaw.com

Bonnie B. Byers
+1 202 626 5507
bbyers@kslaw.com

Neal Reynolds
+1 202 626 9252
nreynolds@kslaw.com

Daniel L. Schneiderman
+1 202 661 7847
dschneiderman@kslaw.com

Patrick J. Togni
+1 202 626 2958
ptogni@kslaw.com

Benjamin J. Bay
+1 202 626 5449
bbay@kslaw.com

King & Spalding

Washington, D.C.
1700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20006-4707
Tel: +1 202 737 0500

USTR Announces Potential Increase To Pending Additional Duty On \$200 Billion In Chinese Imports

President Trump Directed USTR To Consider Increasing The Proposed Additional Duty From 10 To 25 Percent “To Encourage China To Change Its Harmful Policies”

On August 1, 2018, U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) Robert Lighthizer **announced** that President Trump directed USTR to “consider increasing the proposed level of the additional duty from 10 percent to 25 percent” on a list of \$200 billion in products imported from China that previously had been announced by USTR on July 10 (a tranche of products that USTR is referring to as “**List 3**”). Additional details on USTR’s earlier actions is available [here](#).

USTR Lighthizer explained that “instead of changing its harmful behavior, China has illegally retaliated against U.S. workers, farmers, ranchers and businesses”, and that the potential “increase in the possible rate of the additional duty is intended to provide the Administration with additional options to encourage China to change its harmful policies and behavior and adopt policies that will lead to fairer markets and prosperity for all our citizens.”

USTR invited interested parties to “address this possible increase in the level of the additional duty in their comments on the proposed action”, a process that already is underway. In order to allow interested parties to address the potential increased 25 percent duty rate on the Chinese imports covered by List 3, USTR has extended the rebuttal deadline for written comments through September 5 – the August 17 deadline for initial comments also may be extended, but that has yet to be announced.

USTR also has extended the deadline for filing requests to appear at the hearing to August 13. Additional details “will be set out in a notice to be published shortly in the Federal Register.”



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